

# Plant Fact Sheet

## SAND LOVEGRASS

*Eragrostis trichodes* (Nutt.)

Wood

Plant Symbol = ERTR3

Contributed By: USDA NRCS National Plant Data Center



From Hitchcock, A.S. (1950)  
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### Alternate Name

sand love grass, tall love grass.

### Uses

Sand lovegrass is grazed by livestock and is sometimes cut for hay.

### Status

Please consult the PLANTS Web site and your State Department of Natural Resources for this plant's current status, such as, state noxious status and wetland indicator values.

### Description

Grass Family (Poaceae). Sand lovegrass is a warm-season, short-lived, perennial bunch grass. The height ranges from 2-1/2 to 5 feet. The leaf blade is flat. It is narrow and rolls inward under dry conditions, giving a threadlike appearance. The leaf sheath is rounded, nearly as long as the internodes, and hairy an inch or so below collar. The seedhead has a large open and purplish panicle and spikelets mostly 4 to 6 flowered.

**Distribution:** For current distribution, please consult the Plant Profile page for this species on the PLANTS Web site.

### Management

Occasionally, it is included in range-seeding mixtures for quick cover and forage production. This grass is seldom a key management species. It cures well on the stem and provides good grazing in the fall and winter, if grazing is deferred during summer months.

### Establishment

This grass has a high stem to leaf ratio. After stems are grazed off, they often become stiff and harsh to touch. It can grow principally on deep sands and sandy loam soils.

### Cultivars, Improved and Selected Materials (and area of origin)

Please contact your local NRCS Field Office.

### Reference

Leithead, H.L., L.L. Yarlett, & T.N. Shiflett. 1976. 100 native forage grasses in 11 southern states. USDA SCS Agriculture Handbook No. 389, Washington, DC.

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For more information about this and other plants, please contact your local NRCS field office or Conservation District, and visit the PLANTS Web site <<http://plants.usda.gov>> or the Plant Materials Program Web site <<http://Plant-Materials.nrcs.usda.gov>>

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